

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 H01M8/24 H01M8/02

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
 IPC 7 H01M

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 4 761 348 A (KATZ MURRAY ET AL) 2 August 1988 (1988-08-02) cited in the application the whole document -----	
A	US 5 019 464 A (MAEDA HIDEO ET AL) 28 May 1991 (1991-05-28) cited in the application the whole document -----	

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the International filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the International search

22 September 2004

Date of mailing of the International search report

01/10/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl.
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Koessler, J-L

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/EP 03/10589

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
US 4761348	A	02-08-1988	CA	1291525 C		29-10-1991
			DE	3808991 A1		06-10-1988
			FR	2612696 A1		23-09-1988
			GB	2202365 A ,B		21-09-1988
			JP	2635991 B2		30-07-1997
			JP	63279575 A		16-11-1988
US 5019464	A	28-05-1991	JP	2091142 C		18-09-1996
			JP	3067469 A		22-03-1991
			JP	8012784 B		07-02-1996
			IT	1240500 B		17-12-1993
			NL	9000977 A		01-03-1991